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DEC 18 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DN A01504

In re application of: Y. Kashimura, et. al.

Serial No.: 10/810,017

: Group Art Unit: 1616

Filed: 03/26/04

: Examiner: S. N. Qazi

For: Technique for Effectively Treating an Agricultural Product with a 1-Substituted Cyclopropene

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the following papers are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Response

December 18, 2006  
Date

*Thomas D. Rogerson*  
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Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE**

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 18, 2006 for the above-identified application. This response includes two references related to controlled atmosphere storage of apples and pears, which are provided as background material.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 to 5 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-5 are rejected. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of record is requested in view of the following comments:

**Rejection under 35 USC §103(a) - 1<sup>st</sup> Rejection**

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sisler (U.S. Patent No. 6,194,350) ("Sisler") and Huang, et. al, Chinese Soc. Hort. Sci., 49(1): 55-62, 2003 ("Huang") in view of Rossi (U.S. Patent No. 3,943,987) ("Rossi"). The Office Action states that Sisler teaches methods of applying to plants an effective ethylene response-inhibiting amount of cyclopropene derivatives in gaseous form, including methods of inhibiting abscission in plants and methods of prolonging the life of cut flowers; the abstract of Huang teaches that pretreatment of flowers with a mixture containing 1-MCP under low pressure resulted in prolongation of vase life of flowers; and Rossi teaches an airtight container for perishable articles which provides a partial vacuum for perishable foodstuffs.